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Remarks

Reconsideration of the above-captioned application is respectfully requested. All pending claims (1-20) have been rejected as being unpatentable over van Dinteren et al., which appears to use only a single data signal to undertake both a wake-up function and a command function, col. 5, lines 50-53, indicating that the signal used by the Schmitt trigger to wake up the circuit is the "first or second signal" referred to at col. 5, lines 4-15 as clearly being the data signal itself. Accordingly, van Dinteren et al. neither teaches nor suggests the use of using a wake-up signal that has a different frequency than the data signal and that as a consequence affords the advantages noted in the present specification on page 11. It appears that the claims as amended are patentable.

The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at (619) 338-8075 for any reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (amended) A motorized window covering, comprising:
 - a remote control unit;
 - a transmitter within the remote control unit;
 - an actuator coupled to the window covering;
 - a receiver within the actuator, the receiver receiving at least one signal from the transmitter;
 - a wake-up signal amplifier electrically connected to the receiver for receiving a wake-up signal having a first frequency; and
 - a data signal amplifier electrically connected to the receiver for receiving a data signal having a second frequency lower than the first frequency, the data signal carrying information for moving the window covering.
7. (amended) A method for controlling a motorized window covering, comprising the acts of:
 - deactivating a data signal amplifier;
 - activating a wake-up signal amplifier; and
 - activating the data signal amplifier to process a data signal to move the window covering only in response to a wake-up signal being received by the wake-up signal amplifier, the wake up signal having a first frequency and the data signal having a second frequency different from the first frequency.
12. (amended) A system for controlling a motorized window covering, comprising:
 - an actuator mechanically coupled to an operator of the window covering;
 - a receiver within the actuator;
 - a wake-up signal amplifier electrically connected to the receiver for receiving a wake-up signal having a first frequency;
 - a data signal amplifier electrically connected to the receiver for receiving a data signal having a second frequency lower than the first frequency, the data signal carrying information for moving the window covering; and
 - a processor within the actuator, the processor including a program for controlling the actuator in response to [at least one wake-up signal and] at least one data signal [being received by the receiver].

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wake-up signal amplifier 208 recognizes a wake-up signal. In a preferred embodiment, the data signal has an operating frequency that is different from the wake-up signal operating frequency. For example, the data signal, when IR, can have a frequency of 38 kiloHertz (kHz) and the wake-up signal, when IR, can have a frequency of 475 Hertz (Hz).

As intended by the present invention, the frequency of the wake-up signal must be low enough so that the wake-up signal amplifier 208, which is always on, does not rapidly dissipate the power supply 36. On the other hand, the higher frequency of the data signal is dictated by the desire to transmit the control data fast enough to obtain a prompt response with signal verification at the data signal IR receiver 204 - and this generally involves receiving more than a single code.

Referring still to Figure 4, the remote control unit 34 includes an "Up" button 210 and a "Down" button 212. It is to be understood that the remote control unit 34 can have other buttons, e.g., "Rotate," "Tilt," etc. When either button 210, 212 is pressed, the wake-up signal is automatically generated as a precursor to the data signal.

Figure 5 shows the operating logic of the present invention which commences at block 220 wherein the wake-up signal amplifier 208 is on either continuously or less preferably, as part of an "on" state portion of an off-and-on duty cycle. Conversely, at block 222, the data signal amplifier 206 is deactivated. Moving to block 224, a do loop is entered wherein when a wake-up signal is received, the following steps are performed. Specifically, when the wake-up signal is received, the logic proceeds to block 226 and the data signal amplifier 206 is activated. Next, at decision diamond 228, it is determined whether a data signal is received. If so, the logic continues to block 230 where the blinds are operated in response to the data signal. The data signal can include commands that cause the blinds 14, e.g., to tilt open, tilt close, roll open, roll close, etc.

If at decision diamond 228 a data signal is not received, the logic moves to block 232 where after a predetermined elapsed time without a data signal, the logic returns to block 22[0]2 where the data signal amplifier 206 is again deactivated. In accordance with

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CLEAN VERSION OF PAGE 11

wake-up signal amplifier 208 recognizes a wake-up signal. In a preferred embodiment, the data signal has an operating frequency that is different from the wake-up signal operating frequency. For example, the data signal, when IR, can have a frequency of 38 kiloHertz (kHz) and the wake-up signal, when IR, can have a frequency of 475 Hertz (Hz).

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If at decision diamond 228 a data signal is not received, the logic moves to block 232 where after a predetermined elapsed time without a data signal, the logic returns to block 222 where the data signal amplifier 206 is again deactivated. In accordance with

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